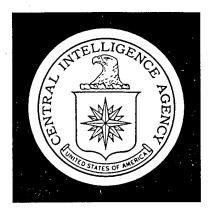
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# WEEKLY REVIEW

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The WEEKLY REVIEW, issued every Friday morning by the Office of Current Intelligence, reports and analyzes significant developments of the week through noon on Thursday. It frequently includes material coordinated with or prepared by the Office of Economic Research, the Office of Strategic Research, and the Directorate of Science and Technology. Topics requiring more comprehensive treatment and therefore published separately as Special Reports are listed in the contents pages.

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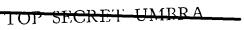
(Information as of noon EDT, 9 October 1969)

PEKING AND MOSCOW TO HOLD BORDER TALKS

China's announcement on 7 October that it would enter talks with the USSR marks the first concrete result of the Kosygin-Chou meeting last month, and reflects recent efforts by both sides to reduce tensions along the border. The proposed talks appear to be only a tactical move, however, and will not resolve fundamental differences dividing the two states.

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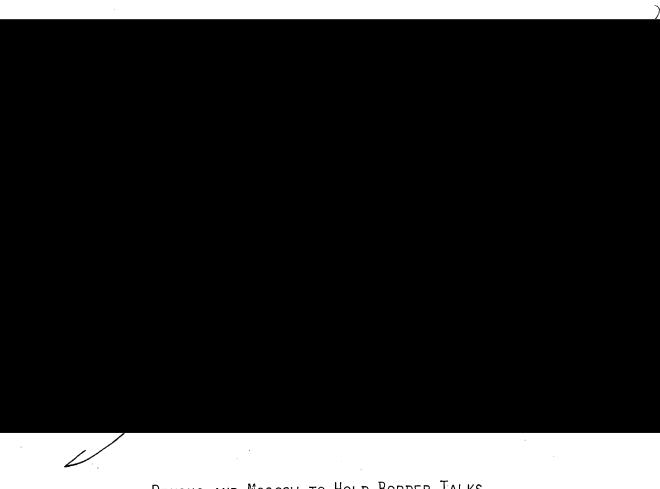
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#### PEKING AND MOSCOW TO HOLD BORDER TALKS

China's announcement on 7 October that it would enter talks with the USSR is the first fruit of the Kosygin-Chou meeting last month and reflects recent efforts by both sides to reduce tensions along the border. The two sides have agreed on a meeting of deputy ministers in Peking, and Western news reports, quoting Soviet sources, state that the talks will begin later this month. This has not been officially confirmed, however.

The Chinese announcement, while it obviously attempted

to enhance China's case in the dispute with Moscow, represented a noticeable retreat from Peking's border statement last May. At that time the Chinese indicated that discussions to ease the border conflict would require Moscow's prior recognition that the present boundary is based on "unequal treaties," and the negotiation of a new comprehensive settlement. Peking's announcement of 7 October, however, omitted this demand and stated that the "status quo" along the frontier

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would be acceptable for the time being.

China's more flexible approach was dictated by Peking's concern over the current border crisis. The Chinese statement pointed to what it termed "nuclear war threats" by Moscow and disavowed any Chinese intention to launch an atomic attack. China's anxiety over the dangerous frontier situation is evident from pointed references in recent Chinese propaganda to "surprise nuclear attack," as well as indications that Peking is preparing contingency plans for extended conflict with Moscow.

The Soviet Union has been pressing China to hold border talks for some time, and the two may have already reached a limited understanding regarding steps to quiet the border before Peking released its statement.



Both sides have already taken limited steps to lessen outward signs of hostility apparently in anticipation of the

negotiations. Although Peking at first did not reciprocate Moscow's near halt on anti-Chinese propaganda following the Kosygin-Chou meeting, the Chinese softened their polemics against the USSR during national day ceremonies and reduced domestic anti-Soviet propaganda. The Soviets sent unusually cordial anniversary greetings to China this year, and Soviet ambassadors attended Chinese National day receptions in a number of foreign capitals for the first time in several years.

Nevertheless, the Chinese statement clearly implies that the proposed border talks will be only a tactical move designed to ease border tensions and will not resolve fundamental differences between the two states. A lengthy Chinese release of 8 October refuted in detail the USSR's most recent major statement on the border conflict and indicated Peking's intention to continue debate on its fundamental differences with Moscow. It also contained a five-point plan that established China's stand for the upcoming talks. Apparently to mask its retreat on the question of border talks with the Russians, Peking maintained that a final over-all settlement will still require Moscow to recognize the "unequal" treaties and conclude a new "equal" treaty with China. statement emphasized, however, that pending such a development, both sides should maintain the status quo along the border and take steps, including troop withdrawals from disputed areas, to avert further conflict along the frontier.